

Private Admonition -- Board Case No. 12, 1994. **Date of Sanction: May 24, 1995.** The Board on Professional Responsibility imposed a private admonition, with the consent of the Respondent, for violating **DLRPC 5.3(b)**, which requires that a lawyer having direct supervisory authority over a non-lawyer make reasonable efforts to ensure that the non-lawyer's conduct is compatible with the professional obligations of the lawyer. As a result of the lawyer's failure to supervise a new employee adequately, the employee stole approximately \$13,000.00 in estate funds and improperly distributed another \$2,000.00 in estate funds for non-estate-related expenses prior to leaving the firm.

In mitigation, the Board considered that the Respondent had reimbursed the estate from his own funds prior to any disciplinary investigation. Attached to the private admonition were conditions requiring, among other things, that the Respondent's law office management and supervisory practices be reviewed by the DSBA's Professional Guidance Committee.